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SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEDIA REACTION: DELAY OF THE IRAQI CONSTITUTION

SUMMARY: The major editorial theme of Iraqi daily newspapers on August was the delay of the constitution. END SUMMARY.

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SELECTED COMMENTARIES  
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- [1A. "The Constitution Should be Against Federalism"](#)  
(Al-Furat Newspaper in Arabic P 2 Editorial by Majed Fadhel Alzaboon)

The author states that the postponement of the constitution means that involved in the negotiations are still insisting upon their demands of the people. He says that they act as though their demands are holy from heaven. He understands that the National Assembly has the authority deadline but they should have included the people of Iraq in their decision. Constitution is the most important national compact in Iraq's history maintains, Iraqis don't want their country to be divided by federalism; they want their leaders to be out for themselves alone. Federalism, ethnic autonomous regions will destroy the national unity of Iraq and will be an enemy of Iraq could never achieve.

- [1B. "Federalism and the Unified Iraq"](#)  
(Al-Zaman Newspaper in Arabic P 6 Editorial by Jassim Al-Sagheer)

The author emphasizes that for any state to be democratic it must pass difficult stages and make many reforms. He stresses that democracy requires establishment of constitutional institutions and committees. These are in the constitutional building of the state. He urges all Iraqis to setting up the constitutional traditions that feed into the creation system.

- [1C. "The Constitution Kitchen Again"](#)  
(Al-Itihaad Newspaper in Arabic P. 5 Editorial by Feryad Rawandoozy)

The author states that the Iraqi leaders made a mistake when they did deadline for the constitution back at the beginning of August. He thinks probably American pressure that made the government stick to the original maintains that seven days is not long enough to resolve the differences Shia'a, Kurds and the Sunnis

- [1D. "Don't Leave the Ship in the High Sea"](#)  
Al-Mashriq Newspaper in Arabic P 7 Editorial by Dr. Hameed Abdulah

The writer states that since the government could not finish the Constitution in seven more days will not solve anything. He says that even if does submit a draft it will not be complete and that will have dire consequences. However, he believes that there is no justification to be committed to deadline. It will not solve Iraq's problems like security or corruption

- [1E. "Seven Days"](#)  
(Al-Adala Newspaper in Arabic P3 Editorial by Dr. Ali Khaleef)

The author believes that Islam should be a source for the constitution source. All Iraqis, he says, are anxiously waiting for the historic of the National Assembly that the constitution is finished and is ready. However, they understand that the issues of the constitution needed many says that the National Assembly took a brave step when it postponed to proved to all those who are working against Iraq that the deadline was not an American deadline. It also proved that the decision was Iraqi because it is an Iraqi constitution and not an American one. He wants know that all Iraqis are standing with them and supporting their efforts

- [1F. "The Meaning of Drafting the Constitution on Time"](#)  
(Al-Zaman Newspaper in Arabic P2 Editorial by Mouayed Abdul Zahra)

The author states that the achievements of the Constitutional Drafting represent a huge advancement for Iraq, even with the postponement. What he says, is that the political groups have come together for the sake

proves that the Iraqis are wise enough and civilized enough to run th  
They are ready for the challenges of the future. The author says tha  
Iraqi politicians are working to building a new Iraq that is not held  
discrimination or tyranny. He maintains that the National Assembly's  
decision on the amendment of Paragraph A of Article 3 of the TAL give  
more time to discuss the issues, and reach a united decision on the c  
1G. "About the Constitution Too"  
(Al-Sabah Al-Jadeed Newspaper in Arabic P. 6 Editorial by Ismael Zayy

The author states that next Tuesday the Constitution will be ready fo  
it. The Constitutional process represents true democracy. The infl  
not understand why the process has been delayed. However, he says, t  
there all of the various political groups must agree in order to draf  
It is not a big problem if the constitution is delayed for another we  
the delay gives the political leaders an opportunity to solve other p  
electricity, unemployment and security. After August 22nd there will  
justifications to delay pending projects. The entire world sees the  
beautiful picture. In spite of chaos and terror in this country the  
together for the important goal of patriotism.

1H. "The Constitution Between Patriotism and Democracy"  
(Al-Mada Newspaper in Arabic P 2 Editorial by Shamil Abdul Qadir)

The author states that despite the lack of electricity, fuel and secu  
following the developments of the Constitution with bated breath. Th  
discussions have given the people the opportunity to freely express t  
through their Parliamentary blocks and political parties. However, h  
of any disruption that might threaten the unity of the country. And  
by the fact that some political groups want to impose their opinions  
maintains that such attempts will destroy the national unity. He call  
be wise and work together.

1I. "Those Who Rejoice at Our Misfortune Need to Leave, We Drafted Our  
with Our Blood"  
(Al-Bayaan Newspaper affiliated with the Hezbollah movement in Arabic  
Editorial Un-attributed)

The author opines that the new Iraq should take its first steps on th  
thousand mile" and complete the constitution. However, that constitu  
the rights of all of Iraq's sects. The author says that unlike Sadda  
depended upon the rule of law to get their points across. The Shi'a  
unreasonable demands or conditions on the constitution. In that way  
they were dedicated to the constitution being successful. Iraq does  
the controversial issues surrounding the constitution. Completing th  
discussion, constructive initiatives and compromise.

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